

Dear FCC commissioners:

I sincerely believe that Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation and a violation of the law that media companies use the airwaves to benefit the public good.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

I also request that the FCC take a stand against this clear use of the airwaves for illegal electioneering purposes and require Sinclair to remove the program from their upcoming pre-election schedule.

Thank you.

-Jon Wheeler
Washington, DC